In the Claims:

Please amend claims 49-56, 60, 69-72, 77, and 108 as follows:

49. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid ~~that encodes a plant retroviral primer binding site~~ comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2.

B1

50. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid ~~that encodes at least a portion of a plant retroelement and that comprises a nucleic acid~~ selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleic acid having ~~that is a plant retroelement primer binding site and that has~~ at least 95% identity to the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2~~, wherein said identity can be determined using the DNAsis computer program and default parameters~~;

(b) a nucleic acid having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2; and

(c) a nucleic acid complementary to the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

51. (Currently Amended) A vector that can transfer a nucleic acid to a plant cell, said vector comprising the ~~isolated~~ nucleic acid of claim 49 or 50.

52. (Currently Amended) A seed comprising the ~~isolated~~ nucleic acid of claim 49 or 50.

53. (Currently Amended) A plant comprising the ~~isolated~~ nucleic acid of claim 49 or 50.

54. (Currently Amended) The plant of claim 53, wherein said ~~which~~ plant is soybean; maize; sugar cane; beet; tobacco; wheat; barley; poppy; rape; sunflower; alfalfa; sorghum; rose; carnation; gerbera; carrot; tomato; lettuce; chicory; pepper; melon; cabbage; oat; rye; cotton; flax; potato; pine; walnut; citrus; hemp; oak; rice; petunia; orchids; Arabidopsis; broccoli; cauliflower; brussel sprouts; onion; garlic; leek; squash; pumpkin; celery; pea; bean; strawberries; grapes; apples; pears; peaches; banana; palm; cocoa; cucumber; pineapple; apricot; plum; sugarbeet; lawn grasses; maple; triticale; safflower; peanut; or olive.

55. (Currently Amended) The plant of claim 53, wherein said plant ~~which~~ is soybean.

56. (Currently Amended) The ~~isolated~~ nucleic acid of claim 49 or 50, ~~which~~ further comprising ~~comprises~~ gag, pol and env genes, wherein said gag gene ~~and which~~ comprises adenine-thymidine-guanidine as the ~~gag gene~~ start codon.

B2

60. (Currently Amended) A vector that can transfer a nucleic acid to a plant cell, said vector comprising the ~~isolated~~ nucleic acid of claim 56.

69. (Currently Amended) The ~~isolated~~ nucleic acid of claim 49 or 50, further comprising a ~~wherein said~~ nucleic acid ~~molecule encodes at least a portion of a plant reverse transcriptase sequence and comprises a nucleic acid sequence~~ selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleic acid ~~sequence that has~~ having at least 70% identity to the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:11, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a reverse transcriptase ~~wherein said identity can be determined using the DNAsis computer program and default parameters~~;

(b) a nucleic acid ~~sequence~~ having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:11;

(c) a nucleic acid ~~sequence~~ that encodes an amino acid sequence having ~~that has~~ at least 79% identity to the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:12, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a reverse transcriptase ~~wherein said identity can be determined using the DNAsis computer program and default parameters~~;

(d) a nucleic acid ~~sequence~~ that encodes an amino acid having the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:12; and

(e) a nucleic acid having a sequence fully complementary to ~~a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: a nucleic acid sequence of~~ (a); ~~a nucleic acid sequence of~~ (b); ~~a nucleic acid sequence of~~ (c); or ~~a nucleic acid sequence of~~ (d)~~; and a nucleic acid sequence of (e)~~.

70. (Currently Amended) A plant cell comprising the ~~an isolated~~ nucleic acid ~~molecule~~ of claim 69.

71. (Currently Amended) A seed comprising the ~~an isolated~~ nucleic acid ~~molecule~~ of claim 69.

72. (Currently Amended) A vector that can transfer a nucleic acid to a plant cell, said vector comprising the ~~isolated~~ nucleic acid of claim 69.

77. (Currently Amended) The ~~isolated~~ nucleic acid of claim 49 or 50 which further encodes at least one agronomically-significant characteristic selected from the group consisting of male sterility, self-incompatibility, foreign organism resistance, an improved biosynthetic pathway, environmental tolerance, a photosynthetic pathway, fruit ripening, oil biosynthesis, pigment biosynthesis, seed formation, starch metabolism, salt tolerance, cold/frost tolerance, drought tolerance, and tolerance to anaerobic conditions.

78. (Previously added) A method to impart agronomically significant characteristics to a plant, comprising contacting the nucleic acid of claim 77 with at least one plant cell under conditions sufficient to allow said nucleic acid to enter said cell.

B5

108. (Currently Amended) A method to transfer nucleic acid into a plant cell, comprising contacting the nucleic acid of claim 49~~,~~ or 50 ~~or 79~~ with at least one plant cell under conditions sufficient to allow said nucleic acid to enter said cell.